



Zero Waste Arlington May 2022 Meeting Minutes

Date: 5/26/22

Time: 7:00

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees:

Members: Larry Slotnick, Sarah Kmetz, Jeff Timperi, Paul Goldberg, Emily Dertz, Jim Ballin, Jennifer Campbell, Charlotte Milan, Scott Mullen, Priya Sankalia

Residents: Julie Benyo, Monica Adler, Amy Speare

The meeting opened with a *Land Acknowledgement* statement:

"We acknowledge that the Town of Arlington is located on the ancestral lands of the Massachusetts Tribe, the tribe of Indigenous peoples from whom the Colony, Province, and Commonwealth have taken their names. We pay our respects to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusetts Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit historic Massachusetts territories today."

Agenda:

1. Old Business
 - a. Review and approve March 2022 ZWA meeting minutes
2. New Business
 - a. Introductions
 - b. Introduce new Plastics Reduction Subcommittee
 - c. Town Day Planning
 - d. Website design subcommittee update
 - e. No Plastics Please update
 - f. Recycling Coordinator update
 - g. Budget update
 - h. Subcommittee updates as needed

Minutes:

1. Approved March minutes
2. Recycling coordinator update

- a. JRM has been bought over by Republic. Contract has cost constraints - we have really good pricing - still not paying for recycling. No other community has the cost we have. We can modernize our systems
- b. Looking for opportunities for ZWA to get involved
- c. 3 year contract with 3 one year extensions - mutually agreed upon.
- d. Putting out press release
- e. Fix it clinic this summer, hiring a college intern (summer)
- f. Average household produces average of 32 gallons - we could create a limit that goes to the average and provide wind and pest resistant barrels.
- g. Watertown has an opt-in food waste diversion program
- 3. Mully gave update on legislation - 5 bills are in play. There is a single use plastic bill -
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JHhvLhb9mb79Yr1cGsFO9WqAuAFmrvvJaDb8AYlyO9nc/edit#gid=1405844849>
 - a. Larry - legislative subcommittee should stay and AOT and NPP should go under Plastics Reduction.
- 4. Plastics Reduction Subcommittee
 - a. New subcommittee
 - b. AOT update from Larry - Sean Garbelley, Cindy Friedman - bills for \$\$ for water bottle filling stations at the state
 - c. Daniel Amstutz - in Arlington planning dept. Larry has communicated with him about developing the Minuteman bikeway and how we can work with them to implement some water filling stations - they are working with consultants - there are rest stops along with bikeway. Daniel was excited about water kiosk.
 - d. Larry gave an update on his and Priya's conversation with Eric Helmuth - he is talking to Adam about some additional funds.
 - e. Jim - there is an expectation that we are going to follow through on our promises - we need to think about increasing water bottle filling stations around town. We're starting the mapping process as well.
 - f. Jennifer - we need to do some outreach and get some volunteers - a lot to do. She's working on some collateral - information to share - flyer for businesses. We need to update the FAQs.
 - g. Priya - sent out press release
 - h. Amy - update on the Spring Fling and how it was well received - people were pleased.
- 5. Town Day Planning
 - a. We need to think about what we have to put on the table
 - b. Julie and Emily - will help with getting things organized on Thursday.
 - c. Emily - maybe we can think about handing out giveaways - silverware that people can use
 - d. Sarah and Emily to help with Town Day planning
 - e. Providing water at Town Day - we could invest in a water system. Water monster system. Maybe a boy scout troop might want to run it?
 - f. Larry - might be a logistics nightmare - might have to be more homegrown for this year.

6. Website Update
 - a. Priya and Amy shared the draft website with the committee.
7. Emily - NPP update - they have a plan to relaunch NPP. Ditched the survey. Going to need people to approach restaurants to talk to them about the program. We need to figure out a script that we can use - what are the benefits to them, what the community wants. Need to figure out what is the ask of the restaurants.
 - a. Amy - approach it as a partner to the restaurants - we want to help you to figure out what is best for your business.
 - b. Emily - some restaurants feel like it's easier for them to implement legislation. want to target a small group of restaurants. Need to brainstorm on this - let's use one of the Tuesday meetings to do this. Need to figure out the goal.
 - c. Sarah - maybe set goals based on how many restaurants do the things that we want them to.
 - d. Larry - we should put the spin on publicity
 - e. Amy suggestion - put a table at the Robbins

Meeting adjourned at 8:30